

GEARING UP: Paralysed!!

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Gear Up Motorcycle Accessories

Yes I've just received a call from two friends who desperately wanted to try the Leatt and Alpine Star neck braces – what made them want to do so in such a hurry? An accident? Yes, it has taken an accident to another friend to remind them of the dangers of the sport. Had their friend been wearing full kit (including the brace) he may well be walking around and not lying in hospital with the threat of being paralysed as a very real possibility. "Yea, Yea" we say, "We don't ride fast or in very technical areas!" Well the sad thing is that our mate was on a very casual ride with his girlfriend – nothing technical at all! It can happen at any time and no matter how many times we say it, it is imperative that whenever we get on a bike we are fully kitted for the ride!

Whilst on this score we also have the ladies complaining bitterly about how 'baggy' and 'frumpy' the ladies' gear is. And therefore stick to their 'fashionable' or 'comfortable' clothing. Hey ladies have you ever experienced how long it takes for a 'roastie' to heal and the scarring it can leave? Anyway enough of the reminders – we all have our level of risk and as long as we are aware of the consequences, I can only say we have explained the critical aspects a number of times!

Onto more positive aspects! A number of customers have just returned from stunning holiday rides! Well done to those who have spoken and experienced just great adventures. Mozambique sands, Eastern Cape passes, Hoggsback, Bavians, Die Hel, the Karroo, the Cedarberg mountain range, the Free State eastern highlands, Lesotho, Mpumalanga, Swaziland – just so many places to ride right here on our door step! So why not commit to at least one of these magnificent adventures? If you don't want to do it on your own or with some fellow club members why not hook up with one of the tour groups – there are some really basic and 5 star packages available.

Whilst on the subject of potential adventure weekends during 2010 we'll be able to choose from no fewer than 13 organised events – the BMW Bike Festival in Oudtshoorn, The BMW Eco Challenge in September, The Rainbow Rallye Raid in March, the Mpumalanga GS Challenge, the Western Cape GS Challenge, the KTM Bike Festival, The Alfie Cox Dual Sport Festival, the Yamaha gathering, the Wild Dog Forum Annual ride (also in the provinces), the Family Adventures Q4Q ride, the Eastern Free State Festival Weekend, the Dallie Terblanche event in Zululand and finally the Country Trax event scheduled for the first half of the year. No matter whether you do one or all of them, I'm sure the experience will be exhilarating and rewarding especially when they will take us to the best riding territories in the country!

Tip of the month: Use a wet chamois to soften up those bugs on your visor and screen before wiping them! Please remember no solvents on visors!



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